

ering, could it not destroy other commands also?

Let us ever remember that if any man think himself to be a prophet or spiritual let him acknowledge that the things that Paul wrote are the commands of the Lord.

Downs, Kas., Dec. 28, '94.

#### SPIRITUAL TRUE MOTHERS AND BRETHREN.

BY EMMET RITTENHOUSE.

"Who is my mother? and who are my brethren?" mk. xii, 48. This was asked by the Lord of his disciples after being told by them that his mother and brethren were waiting at the door desiring to speak to him.

We know our mother and brethren in the flesh very well, but it is very hard to tell who are our mothers and brethren in Christian life, although the Lord did say "by their fruits ye shall know them."

There are so many who represent mothers and brethren who have only the outer garment of Christianity on, or are dressed as sheep, but inwardly they are as ravening wolves.

The Lord said our mothers and brethren are those that do the will of our Father which is in heaven: But many do not do that but do the easiest part and say the rest is 'nt necessary, or do what suits the denomination in which they belong. Our Father in heaven does not look to the denomination to which we belong, but to the purity of our hearts and the example laid by our Lord Jesus Christ, and the way in which we do it; for it would make our Lord, after dying for us, very angry with us if we did not do as he has taught us. When we have done all that the Lord has commanded us to do, then we are as brothers and sisters or "unprofitable servant" and if we would do all that the Lord commanded us, we would be of one mind, and would have but one denomination with many congregations.

It is not the rich man who gives lots of money to supply the wants of the pastor and the church that is a brother, or the poor man who gives his share, but is he who gives with a *willing* and a *pure heart* who is a brother.

The pastor does not care for your money if he knows you give it unwillingly (unless he is preaching for money

and I hope that is 'nt true of many. A man who preaches to make money is no brother, although he goes by the name of a brother; he has only the outer garment on; inwardly he is a ravening wolf, and careth only for the fleece of the flock. A preacher can never make a success in the work of winning souls for Christ unless he has working brothers and sisters to work with him. Then brothers and sisters let us see how many souls we can rightly win for Christ: so that we make our number large before it is too late. Let us do the will of our Father by fulfilling the commandments, going by the way laid by our Saviour so that we may be called true mothers, brethren, and sisters.

Ashland, Ohio. May 10th.

#### TRUST GOD.

The superiority of God's infinite wisdom over man's desires in regard to the workings of nature is well illustrated by a parable told by an exchange:

"I need oil," said an ancient monk, so he planted him an olive sapling.

"Lord" he prayed, "it needs rain, that its roots may drink and swell. Send gentle showers." And the Lord sent a gentle shower.

"Lord," prayed the monk, "my tree needs sun. Send sun, I pray thee." And the sun shone, gilding the dripping clouds.

"Now frost, my Lord, to brace its tissues," said the monk; and behold, the little tree stood sparkling with frost. But at evensong it died. Then the monk sought the cell of a brother monk, and told his strange experience.

"I, too, have planted a little tree," he said, "and see, it thrives well. But I entrusted my little tree to its God. He who made it knows better what it needs than a man like me. I laid no condition. I fixed no ways nor means. 'Lord, send what it needs,' I prayed—storm or sunshine, wind, rain, or frost. Thou hast made it and thou dost know."

If your life in this world is such that you have peace with God, nothing in any other world can ever rob you of it.

Whatever sin has caused in the human race it may cause in you.

## Sisters' Department.

### CHILDREN IN HEAVEN.

In her letter of sympathy to us on the death of dear little Homer, Sister Julia Wood Kaufman enclosed the following appropriate and appreciated selection:

Heaven is the children's home "Of such is the kingdom of heaven." They go out of this world by millions every year. A mighty procession of redeemed little ones is ever moving onward into eternity, as though borne along by a river of tears. They leave behind them tear dimmed eyes, and hungry hearts, and empty arms, and silent chambers, and desolate homes. They come to us like messengers of God, with musical prattle, and winsome helplessness, and lie upon our hearts for awhile, until every tendril of affection has twined around them and bound them to us; then they are torn away and taken from us. This experience is as old as the race. From the beginning God began to draw parent hearts, and to people and brighten heaven, by taking innocent little children to himself. No man can number the vast multitude of little ones God has gathered out of all ages and generations. What a beautiful throng! Even heaven would seem lonely now without them, and the angels would wander disconsolately over the fields of Eden, if the countless hosts of glorified children should be suddenly removed.

Christian parents have a rich inheritance in the memories of their sainted children, and in the living treasures laid up in heaven. "Years ago," says Dr. W. M. Taylor, "when I was leaving my Liverpool home to fulfill an engagement in the city of Glasgow, the last sight on which my eyes rested was that of my little daughter at the window in her Grandmother's arms. As the carriage drove me away, she waved her hand in fond and laughing glee, and many a time during my railway ride the pleasant vision came up before my memory, and filled my heart with joy. I never saw her again! The next morning a telegram stunned me with the tidings of her death; and now that earthly glimpse of her has been idealized and glorified, and it seems to me as of God had set her in the window of heaven to beckon me upward to my